



Education and Local Government Interim Committee
61st Montana Legislature

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 CLAUDIA (CJ) JOHNSON, Secretary

SHARED POLICY GOALS AND ACCOUNTABILITY MEASURES FOR THE K-12 PUBLIC EDUCATION SYSTEM 2013 BIENNIUM

This document on shared policy goals and accountability measures represents a merging of the following efforts that have involved leaders from the legislature, the executive and the K-12 public education system during the 2011 interim:

- Board of Public Education strategic goals and objectives
- Superintendent of Public Instruction strategic goals and objectives
- Shared policy goals and accountability measures development by the Education and Local Government Interim Committee (ELG) Subcommittee on Shared Policy Goals

The documentation for these efforts provides important background, history and context for these shared policy goals and accountability measures, in particular the shared commitments to prepare students for success in the 21st century, to improve teaching and student learning, to improve student achievement in struggling schools, and to increase public awareness and engagement in the K-12 educational system.

This document is nonbinding. The ELG shall review, update, approve, and renew this understanding each biennium with the Board of Public Education and Superintendent of Public Instruction so that it may become the basis of state public policy in regard to the K-12 education system.

As a statement of public policy goals for public education in Montana, this document reflects the ELG's commitment to a basic system of free quality public elementary and secondary schools such that funding high quality education is a critical goal of the State of Montana. This document, in conjunction with the definition of a basic system of free quality public elementary and secondary schools established in section 20-9-309, MCA, will provide the policy direction needed to maintain a free quality elementary and secondary education system in Montana.

The authors of this document urge that it, along with 20-9-309, MCA, be used by the legislature in the 2011 legislative session to frame education budget initiatives and other policy recommendations for the 2013 biennium.

K-12 Shared Policy Goals, Objectives, and Accountability Measures		
2013 Biennium		
Shared Policy Goal	Objectives	Accountability Measures
1. Prepare students with the knowledge and skills necessary for success in the 21st century global society.	1.1. Increase Montana's high school graduation rate.	By June 30, 2013, increase by 2 percent the number of students who graduate in 4 years with a regular high school diploma.
	1.2. Review the ARM rules that govern accreditation, certification, and professional educator preparation programs on a regular cycle.	By June 30, 2013, increase by 2 percent the number of schools meeting regular accreditation standards using 2011/2012 school year as a baseline.
2. Improve teaching and student learning by promoting data-driven policy decisions and increasing access to educational information.	2.1. Develop a statewide longitudinal data system to collect and report reliable and timely data on Montana K-12 students.	By June 30, 2013, the K-12 education data warehouse will be established as the single source of information for reporting and analysis of K-12 student level data collected by the OPI as measured by the number of reports produced from the data warehouse.
	2.2. Improve access to K-12 education data by educators, policymakers, and the public.	By June 30, 2013, educators, policymakers, and the public will have access to data in the data warehouse through standardized reports and ad hoc query tools in accordance with the access rights established for the individual accessing the data as measured by the number of categories of users.
3. Improve student achievement in struggling schools.	3.1. Provide learning supports and promote greater community engagement to increase greater student achievement in schools identified as struggling.	The number of schools served by the Statewide System of Support that show an increase in student achievement as measured by the statewide student assessment (criterion-referenced test) using the 2009-10 school year as a baseline.
4. Increase public awareness of and engagement in the K-12 educational system recognizing the roles and responsibilities of the state and local educational agencies and the legislature.	4.1. Promote coordination and collaboration among the legislature and K-12 education agencies recognizing the constitutional roles of the Board of Public Education, Montana Legislature and local school districts.	Progress shall be measured by continuous improvement in attaining the identified accountability measures in the K-12 education shared policy goal agreement.

K-12 SHARED POLICY GOALS

WHEREAS, Article VIII, section 12, of the Montana Constitution vests in the Legislature the responsibility to ensure strict accountability of all revenue received and spent by the state, counties, cities, and towns and all other local governmental entities, and Article X, section 1, requires the Legislature to fund and distribute in an equitable manner to the school districts the state's share of the cost of the basic elementary and secondary school system; and

WHEREAS, Article X, section 9, of the Montana Constitution vests in the Board of Public Education the general supervision of the public school system; and

WHEREAS, section 20-3-106, MCA, grants supervision over certain aspects of the public schools and districts of the state to the Superintendent of Public Instruction; and

WHEREAS, Article X, section 8, of the Montana Constitution states that the elected board of trustees in each school district shall exercise supervision and control of schools in the district; and

WHEREAS, agencies of the education community have increasingly, and to positive effect, shared leadership between themselves and with the Education and Local Government Interim Committee; and

WHEREAS, an understanding of shared policy goals and accountability measures for the K-12 public education system, shared by the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Board of Public Education, and Education and Local Government Interim Committee, represents an important advance in interagency cooperation and the quality of education policymaking; and

WHEREAS, shared policy goals must be systematically tied to accountability measures in order to ensure timely and effective implementation of policies; and

WHEREAS, the Education and Local Government Interim Committee Subcommittee on Shared Policy Goals and Accountability Measures, comprised of four legislators and education agency partners, with representatives from the Board of Public Education and the Office of Public Instruction, has identified statewide public elementary and secondary education policy goals and accountability measures for the K-12 public education system, in collaboration with the education agency partners;

This UNDERSTANDING crafted by the Education and Local Government Interim Committee, the Office of Public Instruction, and the Board of Public Education, identifies the statewide public elementary and secondary education policy goals and related accountability measures (see pages 1-2 above) that will be used as a policy goal setting and assessment tool for policymakers, the K-12 education system, and the public in evaluating the achievement of the policy goals; and that will be used, in conjunction with 20-9-309, MCA, as a guide to drive

decision packages and funding mechanisms for the state funding that is appropriated to the K-12 education system by the Montana State Legislature.

Furthermore:

1. The K-12 education system shall prepare a Shared Policy Goals and Accountability Measures Report presenting appropriate and current data for these goals and accountability measure in an easy-to-read format.
2. This report shall be presented to the House and Senate Education Committees and the Joint Appropriations Subcommittee on Education by the 10th legislative day of the 62st Legislature (2011 legislative session).
3. This report shall be posted to the Board of Public Education, Office of Public Instruction, and Education and Local Government Interim Committee websites by January 1 each odd numbered year.

The signatures below denote that the signatories fully participated in and support the shared policy goals and accountability measures cited herein.

This document expires June 30, 2013.

Dated this 17th day of August 2010.

X Wanda Grinde

Representative Wanda Grinde, Chair
Education and Local Government Committee

X Patty Myers

Patty Myers, Chair
Board of Public Education

X Kelly Gebhardt

Senator Kelly Gebhardt, Vice Chair
Education and Local Government Committee

X Denise Juneau

Denise Juneau, Superintendent
Office of Public Education

X Bob Lake

Representative Bob Lake, Chair
ELG Subcommittee on Shared Policy Goals



Education and Local Government Interim Committee

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SHARED POLICY GOALS AND ACCOUNTABILITY MEASURES FOR THE K-20 PUBLIC EDUCATION SYSTEM 2013 BIENNIUM

This document on shared policy goals and accountability measures represents a merging of the following efforts that have involved leaders from the legislature, the executive, the K-12 education system and the university system during the 2011 interim:

- Board of Regents strategic goals and objectives
- Board of Public Education strategic goals and objectives
- Superintendent of Public Instruction strategic goals and objectives
- Shared policy goals and accountability measures developed by the Education and Local Government Interim Committee (ELG) Subcommittee on Shared Policy Goals

The shared policy goals developed collaboratively between the ELG Subcommittee and the state education agencies reflect a shared commitment to:

1. Aligning high school outcomes with college readiness expectations to facilitate the transition from high school to college
2. Increasing college participation of Montana high school graduates
3. Expanding distance learning opportunities
4. Utilizing K-20 data to improve student access and achievement

This document is nonbinding. The ELG shall review, update, approve, and renew this understanding each biennium with the Montana Board of Regents, the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education, the Board of Public Education, and the Superintendent of Public Instruction so that it may become the basis of state public policy in regard to the K-20 education system.

As a statement of public policy goals for public education in Montana, this document reflects the ELG's commitment to a basic system of free quality public elementary and secondary schools and to academic quality throughout the Montana University System such that funding a high quality public K-20 education system is a critical goal of the State of Montana. This document, in conjunction with the definition of a basic system of free quality public elementary and secondary

schools established in section 20-9-309, MCA, will provide the policy direction needed to maintain a quality public K-20 education system in Montana.

The authors of this document urge that it, along with 20-9-309, MCA, be used by the legislature in the 2011 legislative session to frame education budget initiatives and other policy recommendations for the 2013 biennium.

Table 1 K-20 Shared Policy Goals, Objectives, and Accountability Measures 2013 Biennium		
Shared Policy Goal	Objectives	Accountability Measure
1. Align high school outcomes with college readiness expectations to facilitate the transition from high school to college	1.0 Decrease remediation rates of freshman entering the Montana University System from Montana public high schools	Remediation rates of freshman entering the Montana University System from Montana public high schools steadily decrease. [Measure -- 5 year trend data]
2. Increase college participation of Montana high school graduates	1.0 Increase the percentage of Montana high school graduates who participate in accredited postsecondary education	Increase the percentage of Montana high school graduates enrolling in college. --All postsecondary --All Montana postsecondary --MUS [Measure -- 5 year trend data]
3. Expand distance learning opportunities	1.0 Create easy access to distance learning opportunities through the development of a virtual academy and through improvements to current virtual college capabilities	Increase the percentage of Montana high school students who participate in distance learning --Higher Ed baseline distance learning enrollment currently available. --High School baseline distance learning enrollment not currently available, but will be collected starting Fall 2010 [Measure -- 5 year trend data]
4. Utilize K-20 data to improve student access and achievement	1.0 Link K-12 and Higher Education data systems	By June 30, 2013, the electronic link between MUS data and OPI data will be established.

K-20 SHARED POLICY GOALS

WHEREAS, Article VIII, section 12, of the Montana Constitution vests in the Legislature the responsibility to ensure strict accountability of all revenue received and spent by the state, counties, cities, and towns and all other local governmental entities, and Article X, section 1, requires the Legislature to fund and distribute in an equitable manner to the school districts the state's share of the cost of the basic elementary and secondary school system; and

WHEREAS, Article X, section 9, of the Montana Constitution vests in the Board of Regents of Higher Education the full power, responsibility, and authority to supervise, coordinate, manage, and control the Montana University System and to supervise and coordinate other public institutions assigned to it by law; and

WHEREAS, Article X, section 9, of the Montana Constitution states that the Board of Public Education shall exercise general supervision over the public school system; and

WHEREAS, section 20-3-106, MCA, grants supervision of certain aspects of the public schools and districts of the state to the Superintendent of Public Instruction; and

WHEREAS, Article X, section 8, of the Montana Constitution states that the elected board of trustees in each school district shall exercise supervision and control of schools in the district; and

WHEREAS, economic challenges facing the state require prioritizing a K-20 education system that serves economic development and job creation; and

WHEREAS, agencies of the education community have increasingly, and to positive effect, shared leadership with the Education and Local Government Interim Committee; and

WHEREAS, an understanding of shared policy goals and accountability measures for the entire K-20 public education system, shared by the Board of Regents, Commissioner of Higher Education, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Board of Public Education, and Education and Local Government Interim Committee, would represent an important advance in interagency cooperation and in the quality of education policymaking; and

WHEREAS, shared policy goals must be systematically tied to accountability measures in order to ensure timely and effective implementation of policy; and

WHEREAS, the ELG Subcommittee on Shared Policy Goals, comprised of four legislators and representatives from the Board of Regents, the Board of Public Education, the Office of Public Instruction, and the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education, has identified statewide public education policy goals and accountability measures for the K-20 public education system, with the collaboration of the state education agencies;

This UNDERSTANDING crafted by the Education and Local Government Interim Committee and the Board of Regents, the Board of Public Education, the Office of Public Instruction, and the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education, identifies the statewide public education policy goals and related accountability measures (see Table 1) that will be used as a policy goal setting and assessment tool for policymakers, the state education boards and agencies, and the general public in evaluating the achievement of the policy goals; and that will be used, in conjunction with 20-9-309, MCA, as a guide to drive decision packages and funding mechanisms for the state funding that is appropriated to the K-20 public education system by the Montana State Legislature.

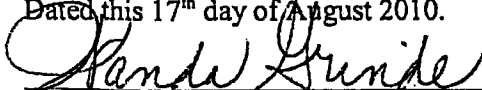
Furthermore:

1. The Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education and the Office of Public Instruction shall prepare a Shared Policy Goals and Accountability Measures Report presenting appropriate and current data for these goals and accountability measure in an easy-to-read format.
2. This report shall be presented to the House and Senate Education Committees and the Joint Appropriations Subcommittee on Education by the 10th legislative day of the 62nd Legislature (2011 legislative session).
3. This report shall be posted to the Board of Regents, Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education, Board of Public Education, and Office of Public Instruction, and the Education and Local Government Interim Committee websites by January 1 of each odd-numbered year.

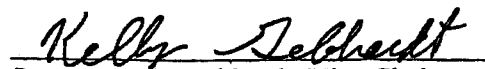
The signatures below denote that the signatories fully participated in and support the shared policy goals and accountability measures cited herein.

This document expires June 30, 2013.

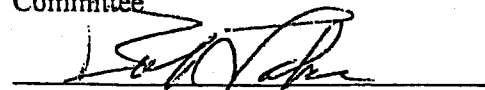
Dated this 17th day of August 2010.



Representative Wanda Grinde, Chair
Education and Local Government
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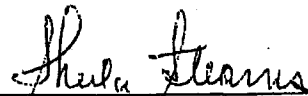
Senator Kelly Gebhardt, Vice Chair
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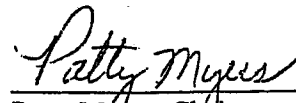
Representative Bob Lake, Chair
ELG Shared Policy Goals Subcommittee




Christian Clayton, Chair
Board of Regents



Sheila Stearns, Commissioner
Commissioner of Higher Education



Patty Myers, Chair
Board of Public Education



Denise Juneau, Superintendent
Office of Public Instruction



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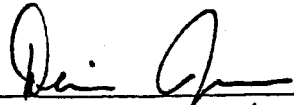
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Denise Juneau, Superintendent
Office of Public Instruction